Review of Finance
Report from the Managing Editor
Alex Edmans
August 2022

1. Acknowledgements and Editorial Board Member Changes

We are very grateful to the Editorial Board and Editorial Team for helping to run the journal. Particular thanks to Referees who have reviewed papers promptly, diligently and applying high standards, and Authors who send us their best work.

The current members are:

Editors: Ian Dew-Becker, Marcin Kacperczyk, Jun Pan, Daniel Paravisini, Christine Parlour, Chris Parsons, and Geoffrey Tate.

Associate Editors: Kenneth Ahern, Anna Cieslak, Patrick Bolton, Jonathan Cohn, Carole Comerton-Forde, Winston Dou, Cary Frydman, Xavier Giroud, Todd Gormley, Nandini Gupta, Samuel Hartzmark, Campbell Harvey, Clifford Holderness, Mark Leary, Alexander Ljungqvist, Lars Lochstoer, Andrey Malenko, David Martinez-Miera, Brian Melzer, Christian Opp, Paige Ouimet, Jacopo Ponticelli, David Solomon, Michael Song, Luke Taylor, Rick Townsend, Michela Verardo, and Yongxiang Wang.

Advisory Editors: Franklin Allen, Jules van Binsbergen, Arnoud Boot, Amit Goyal, Joel Peress, Amiyatosh Purnanandam, and Kelly Shue.

Editorial Advisor: Bogdan Stacescu.

Editorial Managers: Lucy Emmerson and Patricia Ponce.

2. The Impact Factor

The 2021-1 official impact factor of the Review of Finance is published by Clarivate on the Journal Citation Reports. The 2-year impact factor is **5.059** (4.971 excluding self-citations). This compares to 3.894 in 2020-19, 2.885 in 2019-20 and 1.906 in 2018-19, indicating strong forward momentum.

Table 1 compares the RF to other top finance journals.

Table 1: 2021 Impact Factors, Top Finance Journals*

Journal name	2021 Impact Factor Excluding Self-Citations	2021 Impact Factor	5 Year Impact Factor
Review of Financial Studies	7.859	8.414	10.792
Journal of Financial Economics	7.636	8.238	11.428
Journal of Finance	7.542	7.915	12.642
Journal of Financial Intermediation	5.813	5.979	6.797
Review of Finance	*4.971*	*5.059*	*5.071*
Journal of Corporate Finance	4.288	5.107	7.157
Journal of Finance and Quantitative Analysis	4.209	4.337	6.064
Journal of Banking & Finance	3.355	3.539	4.724

This list does not include the top journals in the Business, Finance JCR category.

Figures 1, 2, and **3** show how the impact factors were calculated.

Figure 1: 2021 Impact Factor Calculation for Review of Finance

Citations in 2021 to items published in: 2020 = 132   Number of citable items in: 2020 = 35

2019 = 212   2019 = 33

Sum: 344   Sum: 68

Calculation =   Citations to items published

Number of citable items

344 / 68 = **5.059**

Figure 2: 5 year Impact Factor Calculation for Review of Finance

Citations in 2021 to items published in: 2020 = 401   Number of items published in: 2020 = 35

2019 = 118   2019 = 33

2018 = 248   2018 = 61

2017 = 389   2017 = 69

2016 = 203   2016 = 70

Sum: 1,359   Sum: 268

Calculation =   Citations to items published

Number of citable items

1.359 / 268 = **5.071**

Figure 3: 2021 Impact Factor (Excluding Self Citation) Information, Calculation for Review of Finance

Self Cites to Years Used in Impact Factor Calculation (2019 & 2020):	6 (2% of 344)
Impact Factor without Self Cites:	**4.917**

Calculation = Citations to items published
  - Self citations to items published

    Number of citable items

(344-6) / 68 = **4.971**

Figure 4: Impact Factor for the journal between 2010 and 2021
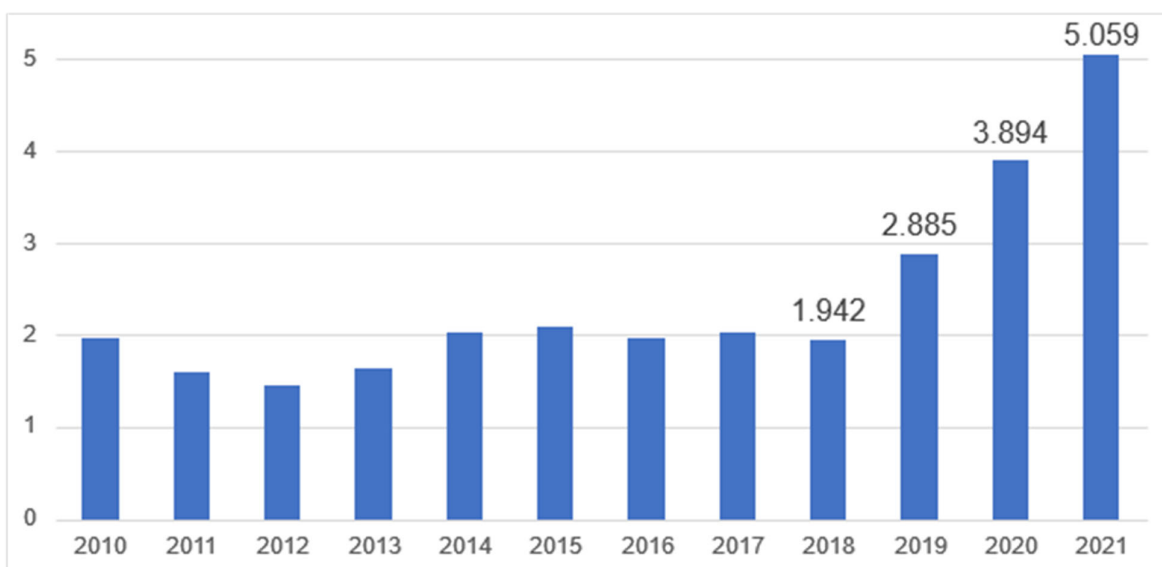
3. Editorial Statistics

3.1 All Submissions

Table 2 gives a breakdown of the latest statistical period 2021/22 and the comparable data for the last two years. During this period, there were a total of **1,012** submissions, up from **978** last year. This year-on-year increase has been a consistent trend since a fall in 2017-9 following the introduction of strict top-three standards, a stringent desk-rejection policy and an increase in submission fees. The continued increase is likely due to the improvement in the journal's reputation. **Figure 3** shows the behavior in submissions since 2005.

Despite the increasing number of submissions, the quality of papers submitted has remained at a high standard. This is shown by the acceptance rate, which has increased significantly to **7.88%** this year, from **4.66%** last year.
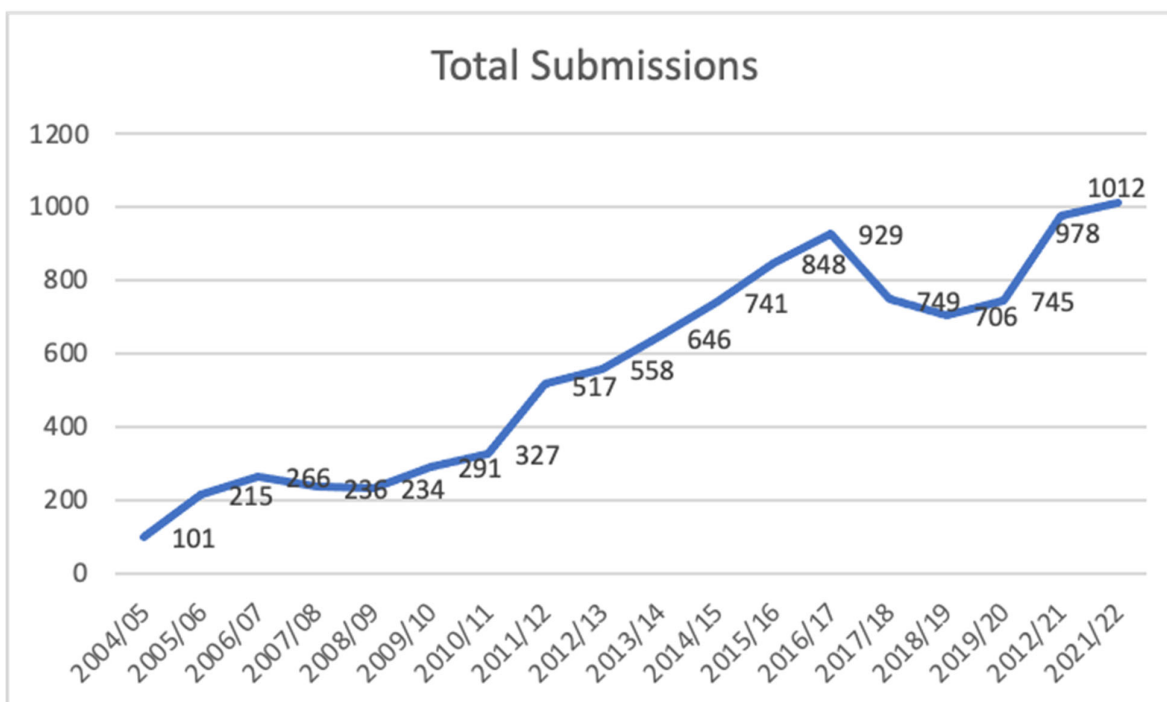
The editorial team has continued to work hard to reduce turnaround times this year. Due to these efforts, and the hard work of our referees, the mean turnaround time fell slightly from **44** to **43** days, and the median from **32** to **30**.

Table 2: Editorial Statistics for All Submissions

The following figures on submissions are based on all submissions and resubmissions received in the statistical period. The data on outcomes refers to all decisions made in the statistical period, regardless of the date of submission. The turnaround time is the number of days elapsed from the manuscript being entered in the database to notification of the editorial decision. The acceptance rate is the number of accepted manuscripts divided by the number of manuscript decisions that could be considered final (i.e. accepted or rejected); it excludes interim decisions (i.e. conditionally accepted or R&R) where the final decision is not yet known.

Category	Count 2019/20	Count 2020/21	Count 2021/22
New submissions	679	900	879
Resubmissions	66	78	133
Requests for withdrawals	0	0	0
Total Submissions	**745**	**978**	**1,012**
Submissions Accepted	30	40	70
Submissions Conditionally Accepted	17	28	47
Submissions Returned for Revision	62	72	79
Submissions Summarily Rejected	165	249	278
Submissions Rejected	440	570	541
Submissions Withdrawn	0	1	1
Total Decisions	**714**	**960**	**1,016**
Submissions Pending at end of period	104	132	113
Mean Turnaround Time (days)	54	44	43
Median Turnaround Time (days)	33	32	30
Acceptance Rate	4.73%	4.66%	7.88%
Manuscripts accepted or conditionally accepted after one revision or fewer (% of those accepted)	62.5%	67.0%	61.9%
Mean number of revisions before acceptance or conditional acceptance	1.3	1.2	1.4
% of R&Rs issued in period eventually accepted	94.1%	96.0%	100%

Figure 3: Total Submissions

Total Submissions

Year	Value
2004/05	101
2005/06	215
2006/07	266
2007/08	236
2008/09	234
2009/10	291
2010/11	327
2011/12	517
2012/13	558
2013/14	646
2014/15	741
2015/16	848
2016/17	929
2017/18	749
2018/19	706
2019/20	745
2012/21	978
2021/22	1012

3.3 Fast Track Submissions

Table 3 provides statistics for Fast Track submissions for the 2021/22 period compared with the two previous periods. For this statistical period we received **102** Fast Track submissions. The Fast Track submission acceptance rate was **4.00%**, which is a small drop from last year, and significantly below the overall acceptance rate of **7.88%**. As this is the first time we have seen any significant difference between the overall and Fast Track acceptance rates, it is likely that this is a random occurrence, rather than a systematic result of the faster review process.

The majority (**84%**) of Fast Track submissions were processed within 14 days, with only 14 papers missing the deadline. The overall mean and median turnaround times have decreased slightly, in line with the overall decrease in turnaround times.

Table 3: Editorial Statistics for Fast Track Submissions

The following figures are based on all Fast Track submissions and resubmissions received in the statistical period. The turnaround time is the number of days elapsed from the manuscript being entered into the database to notification of the editorial decision. The acceptance rate is the number of accepted manuscripts divided by the number of manuscript decisions that could be considered final (i.e., accepted or rejected); it excludes interim decisions (i.e. conditionally accepted or R&R) where the final decision is not yet known.

Category	2018/19	2020/21	2021/22
New Submissions	83	87	87
Re-submissions	9	10	15
Total Submissions	**92**	**97**	**102**
Submissions Accepted	3	4	3
Submissions Conditionally Accepted	2	2	2

Submissions Returned for Revision	11	11	8
Submissions Summarily Rejected	11	16	15
Submissions Rejected	60	59	57
Total Decisions	**87**	**92**	**85**
Submissions Pending at end of period	**5**	**7**	**10**
Acceptance Rate	4.05%	5.06%	4.00%
Mean Turnaround Time (days)	18	15	14
Median Turnaround Time (days)	10	9	8
Distribution of Turnaround Times			
On time (0-14 days)	73 (84%)	74 (80%)	71 (84%)
15-21 days	5	8	6
22-28 days	0	1	3
More than 28 days	9	9	5

3.4 Accelerated Review Process Submissions

In February 2021, the RF introduced an accelerated review process (ARP), designed to streamline the review process for papers that have received an R&R at another journal. This process can be used by authors for submissions where one of the following two conditions applies:

1. A paper receives an R&R at another journal. The authors resubmit the paper but are rejected at a later round due to the "union heuristic" (e.g. one referee signs off but another does not, or there is a single referee who recommends rejection because the authors did not respond to every comment). Or, the paper may be rejected due to reasons unrelated to the "union heuristic" (e.g. a referee bringing up new concerns at the second round, which should have been raised at the first round).
2. A paper receives an R&R at another journal. However, the referees request substantial revisions that the authors feel would worsen the paper or have little benefit. The "union heuristic" is explicitly applied, or nothing is said which implicitly means they have to address all comments.

Table 5 provides statistics for submissions that used the ARP during the 2021/22 period. For this statistical period we received **6** ARP submissions. The acceptance rate was **66.67%,** which is significantly higher than the average acceptance rate of 7.88%. As this is the first year for which statistics are available and the sample size is so small, we are cautious about drawing broad conclusions from this data. However, early indications are positive that the ARP is fulfilling its aim in attracting high quality submissions to the RF.

Table 5: Editorial Statistics for Accelerated Review Process Submissions
The following figures are based on all submissions and resubmissions in the category 'R&R at other journals' received in the statistical period. The

Category	2021/22
New Submissions	5
Re-submissions	1
Total Submissions	**6**
Submissions Accepted	2
Submissions Conditionally Accepted	0
Submissions Returned for Revision	3
Submissions Summarily Rejected	0
Submissions Rejected	1
Total Decisions	**6**
Submissions Pending at end of period	0
Acceptance Rate	66.67%

3.5 Breakdown of Submissions by Research Methodology and Area

Table 5 shows the breakdown of **research methodology** for all submissions for 2021/22. The **Empirical** research methodology continues to be the most frequently used.

Table 5: Research Methodology for All Submissions

The following figures are based on all unique submissions and resubmissions received in the statistical period; where multiple revisions of a manuscript have been submitted during the statistical period it has only been counted once.

Research Methodology	2020/21		2021/22	
	Frequency	Frequency (%)	Frequency	Frequency (%)
Empirical	819	87	832	88
Theoretical	102	11	91	10
Experimental	18	2	21	2
Total	**939**	**100**	**944**	**100**

The breakdown of research areas for all submissions is detailed in **Table 6**. The order of research areas was the same as last year, with **Corporate Finance** topping the list with 36**%**.

Table 6: Research Area for All Submissions

The following figures are based on all unique submissions and resubmissions received in the statistical period. Where multiple revisions of a manuscript have been submitted during the statistical period it has only been counted once.

Research Area	2020/21		2021/22	
	Frequency	Frequency (%)	Frequency	Frequency (%)
Corporate Finance	339	36	375	40
Asset Pricing	221	24	241	26
Banking and Financial Intermediation	185	20	147	16
Behavioral Finance	109	12	95	10
Market Microstructure	50	5	44	5
Mutual Funds	35	4	42	4
Total	**939**	**100**	**944**	**100**

3.6 Breakdown of Accepted Papers by Research Methodology and Area

This section shows the Research Methodology and Research Area for unique papers accepted or conditionally accepted. As shown in **Table 7**, 93% of accepted papers are Empirical and 7% are Theoretical. The most commonly accepted research areas, in order, are Asset Pricing, Corporate Finance, Banking and Financial Intermediation and Behavioral Finance.

Table 7: Research Methodology and Area for Accepted Papers

The following figures are based on unique accepted and conditionally accepted papers that were submitted and received a decision in the statistical period.

Research Methodology		
	Frequency	Frequency (%)
Empirical	68	93
Theoretical	5	7
Experimental	0	0
Total	**73**	**100**
Research Area		
Corporate Finance	21	29
Asset Pricing	24	33
Banking and Financial Intermediation	10	14
Behavioral Finance	8	11
Market Microstructure	6	8

Mutual Funds	4	5
Total	**73**	**100**

Table 8 provides similar statistics for the two previous years.

Table 8: Research Methodology and Area for Published Papers, 2019-20 and 2020-21

2019/20		2020/21	
Research Methodology		**Research Methodology**	
Empirical	85%	Empirical	90%
Theoretical	11%	Theoretical	10%
Experimental	4%	Experimental	0%
Research Area		**Research Area**	
Corporate Finance	32%	Corporate Finance	38%
Asset Pricing	26%	Asset Pricing	28%
Banking & Financial Intermediation	20%	Banking & Financial Intermediation	25%
Behavioral Finance	12%	Behavioral Finance	5%
Market Microstructure	6%	Market Microstructure	3%
Mutual Funds	4%	Mutual Funds	3%

3.6 Geographical Breakdown of Accepted Papers

Table 9: Regional breakdown of accepted papers for the periods 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22

The following figures are based on unique papers that were accepted during the statistical period. Region is based on the location of the author's institution at the time of submission. Where a paper has more than one author, authorship of the paper is attributed based on the calculation 1/(number of authors).

	Asia	Australasia	Europe	N. America	S&C. America	Totals
2021-22	14.2	1.83	18.38	38.05	0.5	**70**
	20%	3%	26%	50%	1%	**100%**
2020-21	6.42	2	9.55	21.87	0.17	**40**
	16%	5%	24%	55%	0%	**100%**
2019-20	4.42	0.75	11.00	13.08	0.75	**30**
	15%	3%	37%	44%	3%	**100%**

4. Best Paper Prizes and Referee Awards

During the EFA Meetings there will be two prizes awarded for outstanding papers published in the Review of Finance during the year. We also award referee awards to recognize outstanding service.

IQAM Invest continues to sponsor the **IQAM Prize** (known as the Spängler-IQAM Prize prior to 2021) to award the best quality research papers on **Investments** published in the journal. The **Review of Finance** sponsors the **Pagano and Zechner Prize** for the best **Non-investments** paper.

Pagano and Zechner Prize

Winner
Bo Li, Jacopo Ponticelli, "Going Bankrupt in China"
　　Volume 26, Issue 3, May 2022, Pages 449–486, https://doi.org/10.1093/rof/rfab023

Runner up
Meghana Ayyagari, Pedro Juarros, Maria Soledad Martinez Peria, Sandeep Singh, "Access to Finance and Job Growth: Firm-Level Evidence across Developing Countries"
　　Volume 25, Issue 5, September 2021, Pages 1473–1496,
https://doi.org/10.1093/rof/rfab003

Finalists
Jeffery (Jinfan) Chang, Ting Yang, Yanping Shi, "Finance Leases: In the Shadow of Banks"
　　Volume 26, Issue 3, May 2022, Pages 721–749, https://doi.org/10.1093/rof/rfab037

Efraim Benmelech, Nittai Bergman, Amit Seru, "Financing Labor"
　　Volume 25, Issue 5, September 2021, Pages 1365–1393,
https://doi.org/10.1093/rof/rfab013

B Espen Eckbo, Michael Kisser, "The Leverage–Profitability Puzzle Resurrected"
　　Volume 25, Issue 4, July 2021, Pages 1089–1128, https://doi.org/10.1093/rof/rfaa032

IQAM Prize

Winner
Jonathan Reuter, Eric Zitzewitz, "How Much Does Size Erode Mutual Fund Performance?"
　　Volume 25, Issue 5, September 2021, Pages 1395–1432,
https://doi.org/10.1093/rof/rfab016

Runner up
David C Brown, Shaun William Davies, Matthew C Ringgenberg, "ETF Arbitrage, Non-Fundamental Demand, and Return Predictability"
　　Volume 25, Issue 4, July 2021, Pages 937–972, https://doi.org/10.1093/rof/rfaa027

Finalists

Andy C W Chui, Avanidhar Subrahmanyam, Sheridan Titman, "Momentum, Reversals, and Investor Clientele"
> Volume 26, Issue 2, March 2022, Pages 217–255, https://doi.org/10.1093/rof/rfac010

John H Cochrane, "Portfolios for Long-Term Investors"
> Volume 26, Issue 1, February 2022, Pages 1–42, https://doi.org/10.1093/rof/rfab038

Martin M Andreasen, Jens H E Christensen, Simon Riddell, "The TIPS Liquidity Premium"
> Volume 25, Issue 6, November 2021, Pages 1639–1675,
https://doi.org/10.1093/rof/rfab018

Distinguished Referee Awards

Claire Yurong Hong
Diane Pierret
Zacharias Sautner

5. Bans

Since failing to cite relevant work is seriously damaging to the scientific research process, we introduced a new policy (see http://revfin.org/editorial-policy/) that imposes a 2-year ban on offending authors in clear-cut cases. Three authors have been banned since the start of 2020. We have banned another ten authors for payment-related issues (e.g., falsely claiming to have a conditional acceptance in order to bypass the requirement for payment).

6. Published Articles

Review of Finance articles published between 1 July 2021 and 30 June 2022.

Volume 25, Issue 4 July 2021
ETF Arbitrage, Non-Fundamental Demand, and Return Predictability
David C Brown, Shaun William Davies, Matthew C Ringgenberg

A Theory of Collateral for the Lender of Last Resort
Dong Beom Choi, João A C Santos, Tanju Yorulmazer

Financial Media, Price Discovery, and Merger Arbitrage
Matthias M M Buehlmaier, Josef Zechner

The Role of Internal M&A Teams in Takeovers
Nihat Aktas, Audra Boone, Alexander Witkowski, Guosong Xu, Burcin Yurtoglu

The Leverage–Profitability Puzzle Resurrected
B Espen Eckbo, Michael Kisser

ADHD Symptoms and Financial Distress
Chi Liao

Lifang Li, Valentina Galvani

Volume 26, Issue 1 February 2022

Volume 26, Issue 2 March 2022

Corrigendum

Volume 26, Issue 3 May 2022: Special Issue on China

Going Bankrupt in China
Bo Li, Jacopo Ponticelli

Mortgage Debt, Hand-to-Mouth Households, and Monetary Policy Transmission
Sumit Agarwal, Yongheng Deng, Quanlin Gu, Jia He, Wenlan Qian, Yuan Ren

Political Networks and Stock Price Comovement: Evidence from Network-Connected Firms in China
Joseph D Piotroski, T J Wong, Tianyu Zhang

Investor Attention and Asset Pricing Anomalies
Lei Jiang, Jinyu Liu, Lin Peng, Baolian Wang

Do Place-Based Policies Promote Local Innovation and Entrepreneurship?[*]
Xuan Tian, Jiajie Xu

How Do Individual Politicians Affect Privatization? Evidence from China
Hong Ru, Kunru Zou

Language and Domain Specificity: A Chinese Financial Sentiment Dictionary
Zijia Du, Alan Guoming Huang, Russ Wermers, Wenfeng Wu

Finance Leases: In the Shadow of Banks
Jeffery (Jinfan) Chang, Ting Yang, Yanping Shi